

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 ARA-10

/115 W

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R 041034Z AUG 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 354

UNCLAS MTN GENEVA 6117

PASS STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: QR CONSULTATIONS

1. THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS RECEIVED FROM MEXICO
TODAY VIA THE GATT SECRETARIAT:

QUOTE WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR COMMUNICATION OF 24 JUNE LAST CONCERNING
THE "UNITED STATES NOTIFICATION REGARDING QUANTITATIVE
RESTRICTIONS AND MEASURES WITH SIMILAR EFFECTS" APPLIED BY
MEXICO, I WISH TO CONVEY TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO
THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, THROUGH YOUR INTERMEDIARY,
THE VIEWS OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS RESPECT.

THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE
SUB-GROUP "QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS" OF THE GROUP "NON-TARIFF
MEASURES" TO GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO, AND ENTER INTO
CONSULTATIONS ON, CONCRETE RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING SPECIFIC
PRODUCTS. IT IS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
THAT SUCH IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS INITIATED
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IN THIS FRAMEWORK.

NEVERTHELESS, IT IS A MATTER OF REAL SURPRISE ON THE PART OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANY INTENTION OF SUBMITTING TO EXTERNAL CONSIDERATION AND TO THE AFOREMENTIONED CONSULTATION PROCESS THE MEXICAN SYSTEM OF IMPORT LICENSING, GIVEN THAT THIS SYSTEM OR MECHANISM FORMS PART OF THE OVERALL POLICY FOR EXERCISING CONTROL OVER THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN TRADE, AND IS MAINTAINED AND APPLIED IN RELATION WITH THE PROCESS AND NEEDS OF MEXICO'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY, INCLUDING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELD, AN ASPECT WHICH IN OUR VIEW WAS NOT WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE SUB-GROUP.

IT SHOULD BE UNDERLINED THAT THIS POLICY HAS BEEN APPLIED SYSTEMATICALLY BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS, AND WHEN WE BEGAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS THE REGIME EXISTING IN MEXICO IN THIS RESPECT WAS KNOWN TO EVERYBODY.

HAVING REGARD TO THE FOREGOING, IT APPEARS TO THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT THAT SINCE THE ABOVE-MENTIONED NOTIFICATION COVERS A CONSIDERABLY BROADER AND MORE GENERAL AREA THAN THE OBJECTIVE PURSUED IN THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS, MY GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT MAKE ANY REPLY MORE SPECIFIC THAN THE PRESENT ONE.

"NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, I WISH TO REAFFIRM THE READINESS OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS "FOR EXPLANATORY PURPOSES" WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IN THE FRAMEWORK INDICATED, WHERE SUCH CONSULTATIONS REFER CONCRETELY TO SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS AND PRODUCTS, AS SEEMS PERHAPS TO BE THE CASE FOR SOME OF THE ASPECTS MENTIONED IN POINT 2 OF THE UNITED STATES NOTIFICATION.

ACCORDINGLY, THE MEXICAN DELEGATION TO THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE AT YOUR DISPOSAL TO CARRY OUT ANY CONSULTATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES INDICATED. UNQUOTE MCNAMARA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, IMPORT LICENSES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MTNGE06117
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750268-0430
From: MTN GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750885/aaaacxcg.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <05 FEB 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QR CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, MX, US, GATT, MTN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006